Amendments to the claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1. (previously presented) A system for back ordering out of stock products, the system comprising:

a host system;

a user system in communication with said host system via a network; and

a database coupled to said host system, said database storing data relating to back ordering out of stock products;

wherein said host system includes instructions for executing a method, comprising:

receiving an order for a product from said user system;

determining whether inventory for said product satisfies said order;

notifying said user system if said inventory for said product does not satisfy said order;

receiving a back order request from said user system to back order said product if said inventory for said product does not satisfy said order;

receiving a time period request from said user system for setting a time that said back order request is to remain in effect;

determining an amount of said product for meeting said back order request;

acquiring said amount and updating said inventory;

notifying said user system that said back order request has been satisfied; and

in response to said notifying said user that said back order request

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has been satisfied, receiving a delivery request from said user system to deliver said product.

2. (canceled)

3. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a supplier system in communication with said host system via said network, wherein said acquiring said amount and updating said inventory by said host system includes:

 requesting said amount from said supplier system; and

 receiving a request from said supplier system to add said amount to said inventory.

4. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said host system further performs:

 in response to said receiving a time period request from said user;

 determining whether said time period request has expired; and

 deleting said back order request if said time period request has expired.

5. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said host system further performs:

 notifying said user system that said back order request will remain on hold for a predetermined time;

 determining whether said predetermined time has expired; and

 deleting said back order request if said predetermined time has expired.

6. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein in response to receiving said delivery request from said user system, said host system further performs:

 sending a back order confirmation request to said user system;

 receiving a back order confirmation; and

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reducing said inventory data to reflect said back order confirmation.

7. (previously presented) A system for back ordering out of stock products, the system comprising:

a host system;

a user system in communication with said host system via a network;

a supplier system in communication with said host system via said network; and

a database coupled to said host system, said database storing data relating to said back ordering out of stock products;

wherein said host system includes instructions for implementing a method, comprising:

receiving an order for a product from a said user system;

determining whether inventory for said product satisfies said order;

notifying said user system if said inventory for said product does not satisfy said order;

receiving a back order request from said user system to back order said product if said inventory for said product does not satisfy said order;

sending a supplier request to a said supplier system for fulfilling said back order request;

receiving an inventory update request from said supplier system, wherein said inventory update request includes an amount of said product for fulfilling said back order request;

notifying said user system that said back order request has been satisfied; and

receiving a delivery request from said user system to deliver said product.

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8. (previously presented) The system of claim 7, wherein said host system further performs:

receiving a time period request from said user system for setting a time that said back order request is to remain in effect;

determining whether said time period request has expired; and

deleting said back order request if said time period request has expired.

9. (previously presented) The system of claim 7, wherein said host system further performs:

notifying said user system that said back order request will remain on hold for a predetermined time;

determining whether said predetermined time has expired; and

deleting said back order request if said predetermined time has expired.

10. (previously presented) The system of claim 7 wherein in response to receiving said delivery request from said user system, said host system further performs:

sending a back order confirmation request to said user system;

receiving a back order confirmation; and

reducing said inventory data to reflect said back order confirmation.

11. (currently amended) A method for back ordering out of stock products, the method comprising:

receiving an order for a product from a user system over a network;

searching an inventory database and determining whether inventory for said product satisfies said order;

notifying said user system via said network if said inventory for said product does not satisfy said order;

receiving a back order request from said user system via said network to back order said product if said inventory for said product does not satisfy said order;

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determining an amount of said product for meeting said back order request;

acquiring said amount and updating said inventory database;

notifying said user system via said network that said back order request has been satisfied; and

receiving a delivery request from said user system via said network to deliver said product.

12. (currently amended) The method of claim 11, wherein said acquiring said amount and updating said inventory database includes:

requesting said amount form from a supplier via said network; and

receiving a request from said supplier via said network to add said amount to said inventory.

13. (currently amended) The method of claim 11, further including:

receiving a time period request from said user system for setting a time that said back order request is to remain in effect;

determining whether said time period request has expired; and

deleting said back order request if said time period request has expired.

14. (currently amended) The method of claim 11, further including:

notifying said user system via said network that said back order request will remain on hold for a predetermined time;

determining whether said predetermined time has expired; and

deleting said back order request if said predetermined time has expired.

15. (currently amended) The method of claim 11, wherein said delivery request includes:

sending a back order confirmation request to said user system via said network;

receiving a back order confirmation via said network; and

reducing said inventory data in said inventory database to reflect said back order confirmation.

16. (currently amended) A method for back ordering out of stock products, the method comprising:

receiving an order for a product from a user system via a network;

searching an inventory database and determining whether inventory for said product satisfies said order;

notifying said user system via said network if said inventory for said product does not satisfy said order;

receiving a back order request from said user system via said network to back order said product if said inventory for said product does not satisfy said order;

sending a supplier request to a supplier system over said network for fulfilling said back order request;

receiving an inventory update request from said supplier system via said network, wherein said inventory update request includes an amount of said product for fulfilling said back order request;

notifying said user system via said network that said back order request has been satisfied; and

receiving a delivery request from said user system via said network to deliver said product.

17. (currently amended) The method of claim 16, further including:

receiving a time period request from said user system via said network for setting a time that said back order request is to remain in effect;

determining whether said time period request has expired; and

deleting said back order request if said time period request has expired.

18. (currently amended) The method of claim 16, further including:

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notifying said user system via said network that said back order request will remain on hold for a predetermined time;

determining whether said predetermined time has expired; and

deleting said back order request if said predetermined time has expired.

19. (currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein said delivery request includes:

sending a back order confirmation request to said user system via said network;

receiving a back order confirmation via said network; and

reducing said inventory data in said inventory database to reflect said back order confirmation.

20. (currently amended) A storage medium encoded with computermachine-readable computer program code for back ordering out of stock products, the storage medium program code including instructions for causing a processor to implement a method comprising:

receiving an order for a product from a user;

determining whether inventory for said product satisfies said order;

notifying said user if said inventory for said product does not satisfy said order;

receiving a back order request from said user to back order said product if said inventory for said product does not satisfy said order;

determining an amount of said product for meeting said back order request;

acquiring said amount and updating said inventory;

notifying said user that said back order request has been satisfied; and

receiving a delivery request from said user to deliver said product.

21. (currently amended) A storage medium encoded with computermachine-readable computer program code for back ordering out of stock products, the storage

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~~medium~~program code including instructions for causing a processor to implement a method comprising:

receiving an order for a product from a user;

determining whether inventory for said product satisfies said order;

notifying said user if said inventory for said product does not satisfy said order;

receiving a back order request from said user to back order said product if said inventory for said product does not satisfy said order;

sending a supplier request to a supplier for fulfilling said back order request;

receiving an inventory update request from said supplier, wherein said inventory update request includes an amount of said product for fulfilling said back order request;

notifying said user that said back order request has been satisfied; and

receiving a delivery request from said user to deliver said product.

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